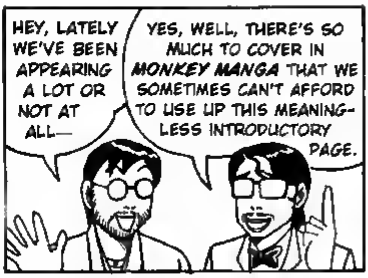
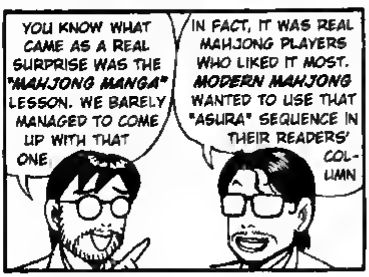

HEY, LATELY WE'VE BEEN APPEARING A LOT OR NOT AT ALL—
YES, WELL, THERE'S SO MUCH TO COVER IN *MONKEY MANGA* THAT WE SOMETIMES CAN'T AFFORD TO USE UP THIS MEANINGLESS INTRODUCTORY PAGE.

IT'S AMAZING, THOUGH, HOW OUR PLAN TO MAKE *"CHIN PYORO SUPONN"* A TREND *SUCCEEDED!*
YES, EVEN *ROCKING ON JAPAN* WAS DOING THE *"CHIN PYORO SUPPON"* POSE! IT'S BECOME SO POPULAR!
CHIN PYORO SUPONN


YOU KNOW WHAT CAME AS A REAL SURPRISE WAS THE *"MAHJONG MANGA"* LESSON. WE BARELY MANAGED TO COME UP WITH THAT ONE.
IN FACT, IT WAS REAL MAHJONG PLAYERS WHO LIKED IT MOST. *MODERN MAHJONG* WANTED TO USE THAT "ASURA" SEQUENCE IN THEIR READERS' COLUMN

AND THE CHIEF EDITOR... *SHIRAI* IS BECOMING POPULAR TOO, RIGHT?
THAT'S RIGHT! HE'S EVEN BEING USED *WITHOUT PERMISSION* IN COMIC-STRIP COMPETITIONS AND EVEN HIROSHI KOKUTETSU ASKED TO USE THE EDITOR SHIRAI CHARACTER.
What? You can see her pussy?

Lesson 17

HOW TO DRAW PSYCHIC MANGA

WELL, IT'S NICE TO BE POPULAR, BUT JUST BETWEEN YOU AND ME, MY DAUGHTER'S SWORN SHE'S NEVER GONNA TALK TO ME AGAIN, SO I'M FEELING PRETTY BAD ABOUT CAUSING ALL THIS TROUBLE.
AND HERE WE GO WITH THE NEXT LESSON!

WE'RE DOING NINJA MANGA TODAY.
HUH? WHY'S THAT?
WELL, KENTARO, WE'VE BEEN STUDYING A LOT OF MANGA GENRES THAT ARE POPULAR RIGHT NOW. BUT WHAT'S POPULAR TODAY ISN'T NECESSARILY GOING TO BE RECOGNIZED IN THE FUTURE. SO I STARTED THINKING ABOUT MANGA THAT WERE ONCE POPULAR AND MIGHT BECOME POPULAR AGAIN. AND THEN I THOUGHT ABOUT NINJA MANGA, WHICH HAVE ALL BUT ENTIRELY DISAPPEARED EVER SINCE I USED TO READ IT AS A KID. I REACHED THE CONCLUSION THAT NINJA MANGA WOULD BECOME THE WAVE OF THE FUTURE.
.....
HA... HA HA HA...
WH-WHAT'S SO FUNNY!?
NO, YOU'RE RIGHT, KOJI! I'M REALLY IMPRESSED!
I SEE.
BUT YOU'RE WRONG IN ONE REGARD. NINJA MANGA ARE IN FACT ALIVE AND WELL RIGHT NOW!
WHAT ARE YOU TALKIN' ABOUT? LOOK IN ANY MAGAZINE! THERE'S NOT A SINGLE TRACE OF NINJA MANGA ANYWHERE!!
NO, IT'S DEFINITELY THERE!
ALTHOUGH IT'S, ER, MORPHED..INTO PSYCHIC MANGA!
PSYCHIC MANGA!?

WHATEVER HAPPENED TO NINJA MANGA?

During the 1960s, one of the most popular genres among kids in Japan was ninja manga, spearheaded by the work of Sanpei Shirato. I was mesmerized by Shirato's awesome techniques in *The Dim Shadow* and *Flame Baksam*, spending my days training to learn them.

Leaving that aside, how did this genre—which once took the world by storm—utterly vanish? Several causes come to mind. One was the arrival of Uri Geller. Another was the hit movies of Bruce Lee. Because of them, the mystical aura of the ninja arts split and morphed into the "occult psychic genre" and the "super physical action genre" (see diagram below).

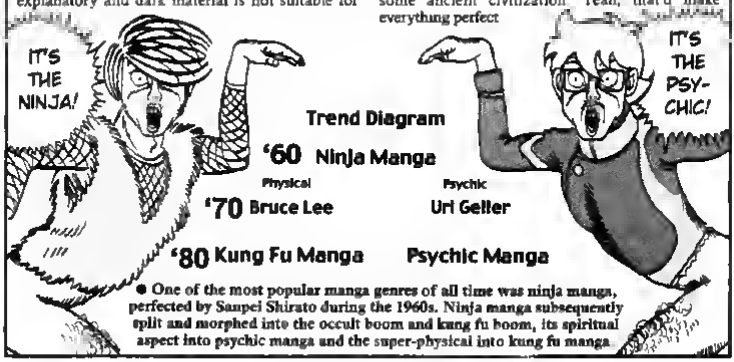
In other words, ninja manga are doing quite well in contemporary manga. Of course, compared to the more rational, semi-plausible "ninja," less explicatory psychic manga don't require much besides the claim, "There is a force that's beyond the understanding of modern science." You don't need any historical background, and this approach syncs up nicely with the contemporary world.

As opposed to psychic powers, ninja arts require explanations, which makes it anachronistic. Characters also die pretty easily. This kind of explanatory and dark material is not suitable for today's kids. Kids these days get bored easily. Any mystery that requires several weeks to unravel is no good, and the aesthetic of ninjas who dedicate their lives to a rational world that's a few steps short of the paranormal must appear (probably) pretty incomprehensible.

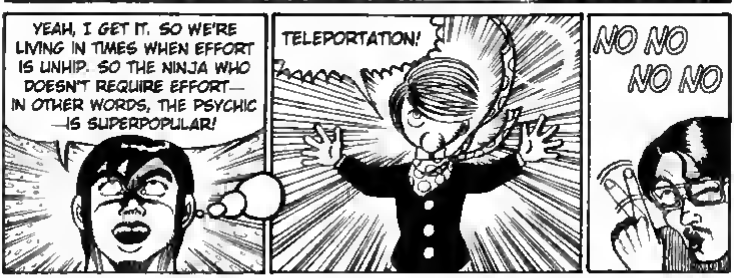
There was a technique called "Blighted Leaves" in *Ninja Military Chronicles*, which I used to read voraciously. This was a technique where the ninja posed as dead. First, the ninja severely injured himself, but not enough to die. He could even chop off one of his arms. Then, using a yogic technique, he stopped breathing and stayed that way for a week or ten days until an unsuspecting enemy approached. The crows might poke at his eyes, the dogs might tear out his intestines, he might be infested with maggots, but he had to still *pretend to be dead*. (You could of course really die as a result.)

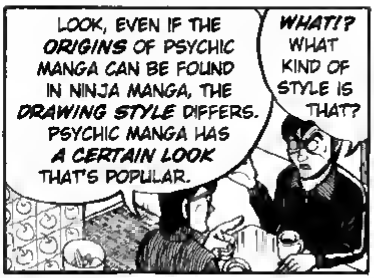
Now this might be called the aesthetics of a guy giving himself up to the Way. Instead of seeking an easy-way-out psychic solution, he must make super-human efforts!! This kind of concept does not appeal to today's kids.

Nah, what they want is psychic powers. Mix it up with some high-tech gadgetry and a battle with some ancient civilization. Yeah, that'd make everything perfect.



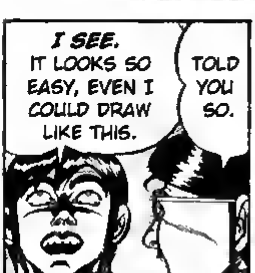
● One of the most popular manga genres of all time was ninja manga, perfected by Sanpei Shirato during the 1960s. Ninja manga subsequently split and morphed into the occult boom and kung fu boom, its spiritual aspect into psychic manga and the super-physical into kung fu manga.


YEAH, I GET IT. SO WE'RE LIVING IN TIMES WHEN EFFORT IS UNHIP. SO THE NINJA WHO DOESN'T REQUIRE EFFORT—IN OTHER WORDS, THE PSYCHIC—IS SUPERPOPULAR!
TELEPORTATION!
NO NO NO NO


LOOK, EVEN IF THE ORIGINS OF PSYCHIC MANGA CAN BE FOUND IN NINJA MANGA, THE DRAWING STYLE DIFFERS. PSYCHIC MANGA HAS A CERTAIN LOOK THAT'S POPULAR.
WHAT!? WHAT KIND OF STYLE IS THAT?

ANIME.

THIS IS ANIME!!
Shape of head (speculation)
The drawing style of old drama manga is pretty annoying to you whippersnappers, huh!? Yeah, I know—if you draw stuff in the hip, cool "anime style," you'll be superpopular!! It's easy to draw too!! The main characters' hair is messy and edgy their noses are just like the diagram (a diamond with triangle), their eyes are as big as glass beads For background and accessories just steal from Katsuhiro Otomo and if someone accuses you of ripping him off, just proudly reply, ' Oh no, I'm actually more influenced by Moebius ' Shit! For touch-up go overboard with massive tone aggression
NOSE
diamond
triangle


I SEE. IT LOOKS SO EASY, EVEN I COULD DRAW LIKE THIS.
TOLD YOU SO.

WHAT ABOUT SUBSTANCE? SHOULD IT BE JUST LIKE THE OLD NINJA MANGA...

THERE IS NO SUB-STANCE!!

IT'S TRUE. THERE REALLY IS NO CONTENT IN PSYCHIC MANGA. THERE'S ONLY ONE RULE YOU HAVE TO FOLLOW.
WHICH IS...?
THE RULE OF "NO, BOOM".
What is "No, Boom"?
THE "NO, BOOM" RULE IS, UH, LET'S SEE...
HMM
Noboru "Blue Sky" Aozora, Manga Artist
...IN OTHER WORDS ...
A beautiful innocent girl
WHERE AM I?
PLEASE, LET ME GO HOME!
The Agent of Evil
HEE HEE, I CAN'T LET YOU DO THAT!" THE DICTATOR WANTS YOU DEAD BEFORE YOU REALIZE YOUR POWERS!
Hair standing
NO!
Aura
ZAAK
Electricity?
AIEE!
KRICH
IN THIS MANNER ...
BOOM
Eyeball
THE BEAUTIFUL INNOCENT GIRL TURNS OUT TO BE A PSYCHIC...
THIS IS THE SPECIAL VISUAL "NO, BOOM" TECHNIQUE FAVORABLY EMPLOYED BY MANGA ARTISTS.

MANGA ADVICE

Am I Really Psychic!?

The main psychic power of most protagonists in psychic manga is *psychokinesis*, with the additional options of *telepathy* and/or *teleportation*. But low-level psychokinesis—like bending spoons, photo imprints, and clock repairs—would disrupt businesses, so you want to limit it to the destruction of buildings. Then there are occult powers, such as black magic and communication with spirits, but these fall under the genre of occult manga. Most people can't tell the difference, though, so you can let it slide.

Now, as far as the story goes, the main character is an average high school girl or something. She is a potential psychic, but she isn't aware of it yet. But for some reason the evil secret society, or some ancient intelligent form of life that preceded human civilization called evil or the devil, finds out about her and attempts to murder her before she has her "revelation." This is when the "No, Boom" phenomenon occurs. The main character awakens to the powers within her. Before she can even say, "So I'm really psychic!," she is pulled into the eternal war between Light and Darkness. Then you must have her "No, Boom" with every climactic scene and with a little fan service you can show her naked.

IN ANY CASE, IT'S NO, BOOM! IT'S ALL NO, BOOM!!
I SEE.
NO, BOOM TO THE SECRET SOCIETY!! NO, BOOM TO THE CREATURES OF EVIL!! NO, BOOM TO HARAJUKU AND ROPPONGI!!
NO, BOOM TO... OYAJI GALS!
BOOM
Horse Racing
NO, BOOM TO... MONTA MINO!
BOOM
...EVERY-ONE...
BOOM
NO, BOOM TO...
K-KENTARO...
TO BE CONTINUED

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